



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 13, 2003

### **H.R. 1798**

### **Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area Act**

*As ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on November 5, 2003*

H.R. 1798 would establish the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area (NHA) in northwestern Connecticut and western Massachusetts. The bill would designate the Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area, Inc., as the management entity for the proposed NHA. Under the bill, that organization would develop a management plan to identify strategies for preserving, funding, managing, and developing the proposed NHA. The Department of the Interior would provide technical and financial assistance to the corporation for developing and implementing that plan. For these purposes, the bill would authorize the appropriation of \$10 million, not to exceed \$1 million annually.

Assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 1798 would cost \$10 million over the next 10 to 15 years. Such amounts would be used to cover a portion of the costs of establishing, operating, and interpreting the heritage area. Enacting H.R. 1798 would have no effect on revenues or direct spending.

H.R. 1798 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Deborah Reis. The estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.